



Citation
to accompany the award of the
Joint Meritorious Unit Award
to the
Headquarters, Joint Task Force Noble Anvil

Headquarters, Joint Task Force NOBLE ANVIL distinguished itself by exceptionally meritorious achievement from 31 January 1999 to 20 July 1999. Throughout this period, the members of Joint Task Force NOBLE ANVIL planned and directed sustained combat operations against determined enemy forces that ultimately led to the expulsion of over 40,000 Serb troops from Kosovo. The men and women of Headquarters, Joint Task Force NOBLE ANVIL displayed extraordinary perseverance and professionalism as they provided critical command and control to over 42,000 US Service personnel and focused combat planning to place unrelenting pressure on the enemy. Throughout 78 days of sustained combat operations, Headquarters, Joint Task Force NOBLE ANVIL directed the launch of over 38,000 combat and support air sorties and the launch of over 230 missiles. As a direct result of the task force efforts, enemy forces could find no respite from the unrelenting attacks on their command and control, military infrastructure and fielded forces. Setting a new hallmark by which future operations will be judged, these men and women planned the most precise air campaign in the history of warfare and ensured complex target approval mechanisms, critical to the political cohesion and unity of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization Alliance, were properly met. Through countless hours and with unrelenting attention to detail, the men and women of Headquarters, Joint Task Force NOBLE ANVIL effectively directed complex air, sea and land efforts which restored a secure environment to Kosovo allowing the safe return of refugees. By their exemplary performance of duty, the members of the Headquarters, Joint Task Force NOBLE ANVIL have brought great credit upon themselves, their Service, and the Department of Defense.

Given under my hand this 14th day of October 1999


Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff